

Loyal Heights Playfield Improvements

Loyal Heights Playfield Field Surface Conversion

The Pro Parks Levy provides \$2,315,658 to “upgrade and improve play surfaces and field amenities.”

Joint Athletic Facilities Development Program (JAFDP) 2002 description: *The Pro Parks Levy provides funding to upgrade and improve play surfaces and field amenities. Proposed JAFDP improvements include convert field surface to synthetic, softball / little league and soccer / football / multi-use field sport fields, replace field lights, backstops and goals.*

Community Meetings

Design and Parks Reviews

(spring-summer baseball)

Construction/Closeout

March 1, April 26, and June 14, 2005

July – December 2005

March 2006 – July 2006

July 2006 – November 2006

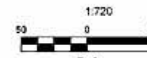
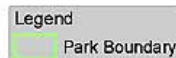


For more information:

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Loyal Heights Playfield and Community Center



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City Photo Source: Tatham, July 1999
Map date: December 2002

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Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is synthetic turf?** Since 1998, Seattle Parks has upgraded grass fields around the city with synthetic turf. The new fields feel and “play” like natural grass and have the enthusiastic endorsement of players and coaches.
- **Why is the field being changed from grass to synthetic turf?** Synthetic turf is a better, less expensive, and safer playfield surface. City Council mandated a number of fields be upgraded to synthetic fields throughout the city. Synthetic turf saves on maintenance costs and is environmentally conservative. There is no need for irrigation, mowing, fertilizing, or field striping. Less water use protects the city storm sewer system from nutrient and silt loading. The turf is made of crumb rubber recycled from tires. From a program perspective, the athletic community prefers synthetic fields as they are not affected by rainy weather or previous heavy amounts of play.
- **Will the field be used more?** Grass fields are closed from third week in November until March 1. Synthetic fields can be scheduled on a year round basis. In 2004 Loyal Heights Playfield was scheduled for 1,384 hours of play. Only one game can be played on the synthetic field at a time. The field will be used more annually because practice and games can be scheduled during winter months.
- **Will any parking added with the field?** No additional parking will be needed. Play can only continue at the same level, but will be year-round rather than three season play.
- **Will new lights be added as part of the field improvement project?** Yes. Existing lights will be replaced with a new lighting system. New lights will reduce neighborhood spill and glare and improve field conditions for players.
- **How long does the construction take? When will the field open?** The construction period is about three months and will begin in the summer of 2006. The field will be usable in late fall of 2006.
- **Can dogs use the synthetic field?** According to Seattle Municipal Code 18.12.080, dogs are not allowed, even on a leash, on any beaches, children's play areas, or organized athletic fields. It is illegal now for dogs to be on this athletic field. Woodland Park and Golden Gardens Park have off-leash areas. See <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/parkspaces/yodogs.htm>. If you see off-leash animals at Loyal Heights Playfield, please call Animal Control at 386-PETS (7387).
- **What sports can be played on synthetic turf?** Any field sport can be played on this field. The field will continue to be used by Ballard clubs playing baseball, softball, soccer, and football.
- **When will the restrooms next to the field be open?** The restrooms will be open when the field has been scheduled for use and at other times determined by Parks operations staff.
- **Can anyone use the field?** Absolutely. This public park is open for public use. Sports teams reserve and pay for fields for practice and games by calling 684-4082. Individuals can reserve and pay for field use by calling 684-4077. If you are playing an informal neighborhood game, you might want to check before you play to see if the field has been scheduled, then feel free to use your local field!

SYNTHETIC SPORTS TURF PROFILE

